

How does the writer use language?

1-a-day practice

He had come out on to a narrow cobbled street that bubbled with a cauldron of voices: garbled shouts, throaty cries, squawks of protest and snarled threats. A procession of horse-drawn carriages filed past in front of him, and Jonathan's ears reverberated to the rumble of the wheels and the loud clapping of hooves on the cobblestones. On either side of the street, a row of tall, soot-covered buildings leaned menacingly towards each other like boxers. Above their high arched roofs, towering chimney stacks punctuated the skyline, bellowing dense clouds of smoke that turned the air into a permanent night. A milky full moon shone weakly through the acrid haze.

How does the writer use language to describe the setting?

We had but half an hour's notice before they began landing the wounded. Between one and 9 o'clock we had the mattresses stuffed, sewn up, laid down—alas! Only upon matting on the floor—the men washed and put to bed, and all their wounds dressed. I wish I had time. I would write you a letter dear to a surgeon's heart. I am as good as a Medical Times! But oh! you Gentlemen of England who sit at Home in all the well-earned satisfaction of your successful cases, can have little Idea from reading the newspapers of the Horror and Misery (in a Military Hospital) of operating upon these dying, exhausted men. A London Hospital is a Garden of Flowers to it. We have our Quarters in one Tower of the Barrack, and all this fresh influx has been laid down between us and the Main Guard, in two Corridors, with a line of Beds down each side, just room for one person to pass between, and four wards. Yet in the midst of this appalling Horror (we are steeped up to our necks in blood) there is good, and I can truly say, like St. Peter, "It is good for us to be here"—though I doubt whether if St. Peter had been here, he would have said so.

How does the writer use language to describe life as a nurse during the Crimean war?

<p>With the first gray light he rose and left the boy sleeping and walked out to the road and squatted and studied the country to the south. Barren, silent, godless. He thought the month was October but he wasn't sure. He hadn't kept a calendar for years. They were moving south. There'd be no surviving another winter here.</p> <p>When it was light enough to use the binoculars he glassed the valley below. Everything paling away into the murk. The soft ash blowing in loose swirls over the blacktop. He studied what he could see. The segments of road down there among the dead trees. Looking for anything of color. Any movement. Any trace of standing smoke. He lowered the glasses and pulled down the cotton mask from his face and wiped his nose on the back of his wrist and then glassed the country again. Then he just sat there holding the binoculars and watching the ashen daylight congeal over the land.</p>	<p>How does the writer use language to create atmosphere?</p>
<p>I am here as a soldier who has temporarily left the field of battle in order to explain - it seems strange it should have to be explained - what civil war is like when civil war is waged by women. I am not only here as a soldier temporarily absent from the field at battle; I am here - and that, I think, is the strangest part of my coming - I am here as a person who, according to the law courts of my country, it has been decided, is of no value to the community at all; and I am adjudged because of my life to be a dangerous person, under sentence of penal servitude in a convict prison.</p> <p>Well, in our civil war people have suffered, but you cannot make omelettes without breaking eggs; you cannot have civil war without damage to something. The great thing is to see that no more damage is done than is absolutely necessary, that you do just as much as will arouse enough feeling to bring about peace, to bring about an honourable peace for the combatants; and that is what we have been doing.</p>	<p>How does the writer use language to engage the audience?</p>

<p>Katie Browne is packing.</p> <p>She gropes under her bed, seizing her blue backpack with the faux leather trim and begins stuffing clothes and toiletries into it with frantic energy, her eyes blinded by tears.</p> <p>There is very little sense or order in this packing, but that's alright because it is the act of packing and not the objects themselves – the grey and green leggings, the Union Jack make up bag puffed up to bursting with all her lip colours, the maroon jersey top with gold stitching that makes her feel so mature and sophisticated – that makes the difference.</p> <p>Katie is leaving for good this time, She is never coming back. She has had <i>enough</i>. She flounces down on the bed, pulling on the pair of shiny red-brown ankle boots that her dad bought her a month ago.</p> <p>On the window of her little room, the rain raps with increasing insistence, as though urging her to think again.</p>	<p>How does the writer use language to convey the characters thoughts and feelings?</p>
---	--

1. Extract taken from Darkside by Tom Becker (21st century)
2. Extract taken from Florence Nightingale's experience of the Crimean war (19th century)
3. Extract taken from The Road by Cormac McCarthy (21st century)
4. Extract taken from Emmeline Pankhurst's 'Freedom or Death' speech in Connecticut (20th century)
5. Extract taken from Dear Amy by Helen Callaghan (21st century)